

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Public Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 1 November 2005

Question: HS3

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Centrelink - Income support customers

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written

SENATOR WONG asked on 1/11/2005:

It is in this bundle I have just been given. It is HS84. There were quite a number of payment types and then four sets of questions in relation to each of those. The answer says, 'Population numbers are provided on a point-in-time basis for both years.' Can you clarify for me what time that is? It may be somewhere in the document but, as I said, I have only just looked at these.

Ms Scott—I will see if we can find out exactly what that point-in-time reference is. My experience has been that there will be a small footnote that will tell us the answer but I cannot see it.

Senator WONG—I was trying to look for that. It does in relation to crisis payment but not in relation to the others. It would be useful to know that because it may affect what I ask you next. Are these figures averaged over the calendar year? Are they point in time as at October? Is there someone who knows?

Answer:

As per Senator Wong's request, the response to HS84 now includes additional columns to clarify the point in time at which the data was generated, no other changes have been made to the response to HS84. HS33 asked by Senator Evans does however, include updated figures on HS84 and may be of greater assistance.

With the exception of Maternity Payment and Crisis Payment, all data is provided as point in time as at March 2004 and March 2005. Population data is provided as point in time rather than calendar year because it provides a more accurate result. When this question was originally asked in May 2005, the most recent population data available was for the March 2005 quarter. Therefore March 2004 data was also provided to allow a comparison for the same quarter in the previous year.

Footnotes explaining how Maternity Payment and Crisis Payment data was extracted are provided separately.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Public Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 1 November 2005

(a) Total number of people receiving the payment

PAYMENT	2004	Data Extraction Date	2005	Data Extraction Date
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART A	1,800,442	5/03/2004	1,824,385	4/03/2005
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART B	1,213,535	5/03/2004	1,396,612	4/03/2005
MATERNITY PAYMENT +	104,133	5/03/2004	112,397	4/03/2005
MATERNITY ALLOWANCE	124,203	5/03/2004	245	4/03/2005
MODIFIED MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE !	64,910	5/03/2004	93,302	4/03/2005
MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE	124,438	19/03/2004	2,462	18/03/2005
PARENTING PAYMENT SINGLE	452,882	19/03/2004	459,111	18/03/2005
PARENTING PAYMENT PARTNERED	187,342	19/03/2004	178,186	18/03/2005
DOUBLE ORPHAN PENSION	1,150	19/03/2004	1,227	18/03/2005
CARER ALLOWANCE	288,806	19/03/2004	334,085	18/03/2005
AGE PENSION	1,859,646	19/03/2004	1,898,941	18/03/2005
DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION	692,733	19/03/2004	706,026	18/03/2005
WIFE PENSION	54,995	19/03/2004	47,030	18/03/2005
BEREAVEMENT ALLOWANCE	72	5/03/2004	79	4/03/2005
WIDOW B PENSION	2,388	5/03/2004	863	4/03/2005
CARER PAYMENT	81,222	5/03/2004	92,599	4/03/2005
NEWSTART ALLOWANCE	503,152	5/03/2004	480,718	4/03/2005
YOUTH ALLOWANCE	365,280	5/03/2004	349,295	4/03/2005

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Public Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 1 November 2005

PAYMENT	2004	Data Extraction Date	2005	Data Extraction Date
AUSTUDY PAYMENT	34,165	5/03/2004	29,864	4/03/2005
PARTNER ALLOWANCE	96,520	5/03/2004	75,730	4/03/2005
SICKNESS ALLOWANCE	8,475	5/03/2004	8,233	4/03/2005
WIDOW ALLOWANCE	45,467	5/03/2004	44,518	4/03/2005
MATURE AGE ALLOWANCE	36,304	5/03/2004	23,642	4/03/2005
SPECIAL BENEFIT	11,411	5/03/2004	9,913	4/03/2005
MOBILITY ALLOWANCE	45,700	5/03/2004	47,600	4/03/2005
REMOTE AREA ALLOWANCE*	65,592	5/03/2004	58,698	1/3/2005
CRISIS PAYMENT**	44,847	19/03/2004	44,420	18/03/2005

+ Maternity Payment replaced Maternity Allowance for children born on or after 1 July 2004.

! Modified Maternity Immunisation Allowance replaced Maternity Immunisation Allowance for children who turned 18 months on or after 1 July 2004.

*This figure represents the number of Remote Area Allowances (RAA) paid over a two month period, not the number of customers in receipt of the payment. The figures show a two-month period between May-June 2004 and May-June 2005.

**This figure relates to the number of Crisis Payments made during the financial years 2003-04 and 2004-05 (to 10 June 2005), not the number of customers in receipt of the payment.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

(b) Age breakdown of people receiving the payment

PAYMENTS 2004	12-24YRS	25-34YRS	35-44YRS	45-54YRS	55-64YRS	65-74YRS	75-84YRS	85+YRS	TOTAL #
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART A	109,364	582,678	791,713	287,350	25,413	3,414	495	<20	1,800,427
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART B	99,637	438,412	499,065	158,740	14,864	2,446	360	<20	1,213,524
MATERNITY PAYMENT +	17,681	60,948	24,672	722	92	<20	<20	<20	104,115
MATERNITY ALLOWANCE	24,730	72,917	25,573	857	115	<20	<20	<20	124,192
MODIFIED MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE !	8,583	36,795	18,720	717	81	<20	<20	<20	64,896
MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE	22,037	73,885	27,233	1,075	182	25	<20	<20	124,437
PARENTING PAYMENT SINGLE	59,370	162,302	172,429	54,221	4,511	47	<20	<20	452,880
PARENTING PAYMENT PARTNERED	18,284	67,307	75,342	24,108	2,267	31	<20	<20	187,339
DOUBLE ORPHAN PENSION	57	157	232	309	246	118	27	<20	1,146
CARER ALLOWANCE	4,887	34,951	71,182	56,461	52,343	37,771	27,384	3,826	288,805
AGE PENSION	<20	<20	<20	<20	128,590	980,682	561,462	188,912	1,859,646
DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION	44,375	71,342	116,624	181,013	273,513	5,575	250	41	692,733
WIFE PENSION	<20	566	5,066	16,869	32,095	279	114	<20	54,989

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

PAYMENTS 2004	12-24YRS	25-34YRS	35-44YRS	45-54YRS	55-64YRS	65-74YRS	75-84YRS	85+YRS	TOTAL #
BEREAVEMENT ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	27	39	<20	<20	<20	66
WIDOW B PENSION	<20	<20	<20	<20	1,552	331	344	161	2,388
CARER PAYMENT	2,874	6,695	15,587	26,004	27,767	1,962	305	28	81,222
NEWSTART ALLOWANCE	91,741	145,003	110,310	98,747	57,350	<20	<20	<20	503,151
YOUTH ALLOWANCE	359,039	6,240	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	365,279
AUSTUDY PAYMENT	<20	22,005	7,709	3,761	685	<20	<20	<20	34,160
PARTNER ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	20,134	71,831	3,545	932	77	96,519
SICKNESS ALLOWANCE	969	2,155	2,117	2,027	1,207	<20	<20	<20	8,475
WIDOW ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	8,774	31,782	2,802	1,752	357	45,467
MATURE AGE ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	<20	36,296	<20	<20	<20	36,296
SPECIAL BENEFIT	1,715	2,510	1,359	580	333	3,050	1,652	212	11,411
MOBILITY ALLOWANCE	9,634	9,509	10,503	9,183	5,266	1,351	235	<20	45,681

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

PAYMENTS - 2005	12-24YRS	25-34YRS	35-44YRS	45-54YRS	55-64YRS	65-74YRS	75-84YRS	85+YRS	TOTAL #
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART A	108,614	571,802	802,530	308,729	28,417	3,611	516	166	1,824,385
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART B	103,747	482,747	588,966	198,014	19,374	3,274	469	21	1,396,612
MATERNITY PAYMENT +	19,963	65,851	25,681	795	94	<20	<20	<20	112,397
MATERNITY ALLOWANCE	<20	140	99	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	245
MODIFIED MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE !	11,798	54,021	26,402	943	122	<20	<20	<20	93,302
MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE	419	1,266	724	49	<20	<20	<20	<20	2,462
PARENTING PAYMENT SINGLE	59,011	161,416	175,721	58,080	4,834	47	<20	<20	459,109
PARENTING PAYMENT PARTNERED	17,640	63,622	70,914	23,687	2,295	24	<20	<20	178,182
DOUBLE ORPHAN PENSION	84	186	240	308	258	123	24	<20	1,223
CARER ALLOWANCE	5,764	37,505	78,869	65,587	63,928	45,417	32,290	4,725	334,085
AGE PENSION	<20	<20	<20	<20	125,679	991,412	591,807	190,043	1,898,941
DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION	45,814	71,850	118,120	185,411	278,345	6,088	356	42	706,026
WIFE PENSION	<20	382	4,023	14,536	27,716	248	118	<20	47,023
BEREAVEMENT ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	28	43	<20	<20	<20	71

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

PAYMENTS - 2005	12-24YRS	25-34YRS	35-44YRS	45-54YRS	55-64YRS	65-74YRS	75-84YRS	85+YRS	TOTAL #
WIDOW B PENSION	<20	<20	<20	<20	65	309	333	156	863
CARER PAYMENT	3,431	7,397	17,368	28,927	32,455	2,569	416	36	92,599
NEWSTART ALLOWANCE	84,729	133,028	102,028	94,552	66,381	<20	<20	<20	480,718
YOUTH ALLOWANCE	343,268	6,026	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	349,294
AUSTUDY PAYMENT	<20	19,195	6,697	3,281	685	<20	<20	<20	29,858
PARTNER ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	13,193	58,635	2,934	901	66	75,729
SICKNESS ALLOWANCE	912	2,092	1,971	2,007	1,251	<20	<20	<20	8,233
WIDOW ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	7,696	31,945	2,653	1,831	393	44,518
MATURE AGE ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	<20	23,641	<20	<20	<20	23,641
SPECIAL BENEFIT	1,330	1,922	1,084	462	313	2,858	1,711	233	9,913
MOBILITY ALLOWANCE	10,113	9,503	10,630	9,695	5,824	1,535	280	<20	47,580

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Centrelink is unable to provide the age break-up of Crisis Payment data for the 2004 and 2005 calendar year.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

(c) Gender of people receiving the payment

GENDER Payment	2004 #		2005 #	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART A	1,657,261	143,181	1,666,311	158,074
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART B	1,097,679	115,856	1,260,085	136,527
MATERNITY PAYMENT +	94,967	8,916	101,921	10,270
MATERNITY ALLOWANCE	114,535	9,503	142	<20
MODIFIED MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE !	60,587	4,074	86,425	6,637
MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE	116,041	8,178	2,137	162
PARENTING PAYMENT SINGLE	417,427	35,455	423,209	35,902
PARENTING PAYMENT PARTNERED	167,070	20,272	159,254	18,932
DOUBLE ORPHAN PENSION	993	155	1,046	179
CARER ALLOWANCE	221,540	67,265	254,686	79,399
AGE PENSION	1,107,951	751,695	1,124,908	774,033
DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION	274,630	418,103	285,102	420,924
WIFE PENSION	54,995	<20	47,030	<20
BEREAVEMENT ALLOWANCE	63	<20	74	<20
WIDOW B PENSION	2,388	0	863	0
CARER PAYMENT	52,249	28,973	60,476	32,123
NEWSTART ALLOWANCE	163,489	339,663	163,034	317,684
YOUTH ALLOWANCE	196,542	168,737	188,845	160,449
AUSTUDY PAYMENT	15,007	19,158	13,432	16,432
PARTNER ALLOWANCE	84,863	11,656	66,986	8,743
SICKNESS ALLOWANCE	2,828	5,647	2,729	5,504
WIDOW ALLOWANCE	45,467	0	44,518	0
MATURE AGE ALLOWANCE	3,899	32,405	1,649	21,993
SPECIAL BENEFIT	4,269	7,142	3,954	5,959
MOBILITY ALLOWANCE	20,535	25,165	21,445	26,155

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

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Centrelink is unable to provide the gender break-up of Crisis Payment data for the 2004 and 2005 calendar years.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

(d) Number of people receiving the payment in each state and territory

STATE & TERRITORY BREAKDOWN										
PAYMENTS 2004	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	TBA	TOTAL #
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART A	23,282	571,065	21,259	374,033	143,014	50,345	436,343	180,367	734	1,800,442
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART B	15,898	391,584	14,961	252,899	92,410	33,127	286,574	125,926	156	1,213,535
MATERNITY PAYMENT +	1,588	34,863	1,383	21,233	7,257	2,565	24,666	10,206	117	104,115
MATERNITY ALLOWANCE	1,738	40,082	1,815	25,923	8,938	2,816	30,079	12,647	<20	124,192
MODIFIED MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE !	839	21,018	680	13,698	4,855	1,690	15,478	6,353	50	64,896
MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE	1,715	40,146	1,420	25,825	9,068	3,229	30,619	12,161	36	124,437
PARENTING PAYMENT SINGLE	5,333	145,262	6,134	99,960	36,140	13,461	99,656	46,676	260	452,882
PARENTING PAYMENT PARTNERED	1,716	61,763	3,756	38,177	14,373	6,541	43,573	17,373	70	187,342
DOUBLE ORPHAN PENSION	<20	335	26	241	109	34	247	141	<20	1,133
CARER ALLOWANCE	3,073	95,401	1,359	57,532	24,133	8,208	75,115	23,864	121	288,806
AGE PENSION	17,078	609,857	6,005	323,115	173,342	99,366	473,223	156,997	663	1,859,646
DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION	6,992	224,698	5,565	133,430	66,068	33,052	164,299	58,336	293	692,733
WIFE PENSION	272	17,640	231	10,128	5,285	3,998	12,796	4,616	29	54,995
BEREAVEMENT ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
WIDOW B PENSION	21	475	<20	294	145	935	379	127	<20	2,376
CARER PAYMENT	560	28,798	445	16,381	6,144	2,897	20,260	5,705	32	81,222
NEWSTART ALLOWANCE	4,766	155,366	14,210	104,131	40,463	17,128	119,760	47,328	<20	503,152
YOUTH ALLOWANCE	5,720	112,931	3,795	71,081	29,682	12,007	94,759	35,304	<20	365,279
AUSTUDY PAYMENT	665	9,138	240	7,439	3,124	1,364	7,844	4,351	<20	34,165
PARTNER ALLOWANCE	469	31,260	256	19,159	9,150	4,024	23,983	8,218	<20	96,519
SICKNESS ALLOWANCE	98	2,372	42	1,871	762	174	2,476	680	<20	8,475
WIDOW ALLOWANCE	370	14,841	185	9,590	3,396	1,334	11,660	4,091	<20	45,467
MATURE AGE ALLOWANCE	177	11,480	138	8,324	3,029	1,500	8,537	3,119	<20	36,304
SPECIAL BENEFIT	143	5,893	28	693	806	83	3,200	565	<20	11,411
MOBILITY ALLOWANCE	524	13,157	246	8,687	5,338	1,426	12,326	3,983	<20	45,687

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

PAYMENTS 2005	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	TBA	TOTAL#
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART A	23,028	577,203	21,338	380,607	144,590	50,804	443,665	182,494	<20	1,823,729
FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART B	17,425	447,895	17,964	290,552	106,381	38,363	333,890	144,042	<20	1,396,512
MATERNITY PAYMENT +	1,764	37,765	1,540	23,280	7,593	2,354	26,616	11,190	89	112,191
MATERNITY ALLOWANCE	<20	78	<20	<20	<20	<20	64	<20	<20	142
MODIFIED MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE !	1,388	30,155	999	20,209	6,676	2,205	22,411	8,982	37	93,062
MATERNITY IMMUNISATION ALLOWANCE	44	844	51	472	138	507	436	214	<20	2,706
PARENTING PAYMENT SINGLE	5,254	147,697	6,136	100,687	36,655	13,654	101,695	46,687	646	459,111
PARENTING PAYMENT PARTNERED	1,609	59,245	3,607	35,248	13,652	6,032	42,254	16,089	450	178,186
DOUBLE ORPHAN PENSION	<20	337	25	245	133	33	280	155	<20	1,208
CARER ALLOWANCE	3,476	111,238	1,554	65,509	28,182	9,524	87,059	27,455	88	334,085
AGE PENSION	17,468	618,788	6,214	331,644	175,825	103,378	482,663	159,425	3,536	1,898,941
DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION	7,027	227,824	5,841	135,790	67,353	33,818	168,442	59,630	301	706,026
WIFE PENSION	231	15,062	186	8,620	4,494	3,553	10,892	3,958	34	47,030
BEREAVEMENT ALLOWANCE	<20	<20	<20	24	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	24
WIDOW B PENSION	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	819	<20	<20	<20	819
CARER PAYMENT	598	33,168	493	18,361	7,085	3,348	23,090	6,375	81	92,599
NEWSTART ALLOWANCE	4,696	152,337	14,429	95,655	39,483	15,961	115,764	42,393	<20	480,718
YOUTH ALLOWANCE	5,581	108,377	3,610	65,582	29,013	11,408	92,406	33,317	<20	349,294
AUSTUDY PAYMENT	531	7,966	171	6,392	2,786	1,178	7,070	3,770	<20	29,864
PARTNER ALLOWANCE	340	24,729	202	14,750	7,234	3,289	18,893	6,292	<20	75,729
SICKNESS ALLOWANCE	84	2,349	46	1,862	732	167	2,312	681	<20	8,233
WIDOW ALLOWANCE	337	14,760	200	9,270	3,247	1,303	11,386	4,015	<20	44,518
MATURE AGE ALLOWANCE	106	7,407	80	5,411	2,020	1,021	5,561	2,036	<20	23,642
SPECIAL BENEFIT	132	5,209	<20	582	667	75	2,782	450	<20	9,897
MOBILITY ALLOWANCE	535	13,583	225	9,164	5,656	1,517	12,698	4,156	66	47,600

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06, 1 November 2005

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Centrelink is unable to provide a state break up of remote Area Allowance and Crisis Payment data for the 2004 and 2005 calendar years.

TBA = On the date that the data was extracted a very small number of customers in each payment population were 'in transit' for a range of reasons. As a result, Centrelink was 'to be advised' (TBA) by those customers of their new address.